



Minute of conference call meeting, Wednesday 16 May 2012 10.35 a.m. – 12:40 p.m. EST

PRESENT: Co-operative Federation of New South Wales (Jim Sneesby and Marie Winter), Co-operative Federation of Queensland (Jim Howard), Co-operative Federation of South Australia (John Keep, Chris Firth and Trevor Schmidt), Co-operatives Victoria (David Griffiths and Tony O'Shea) and Co-operatives WA (Peter Wells)

APOLOGIES: Chris Enright (Co-operatives WA) and Tony Rogic (Co-operative Federation of New South Wales)

## 1. Preliminaries

### 1.1 Meeting Notes

That the minute of the CA meeting of 23 September 2011 be confirmed.

M: Peter Wells S: Jim Howard CARRIED

ACTION: Secretary

## 2. Business arising from previous minute

### 2.1 IYC 2012

There was brief discussion on the Social Business Australia initiative to establish a Social Business Council and varying views on whether sufficient numbers of the large co-operatives being approached would financially support the proposal.

Tony O'Shea proposed Co-operatives Australia should be incorporated and both Jim Howard and Peter Wells queried what difference would this make. Tony O'Shea said that there was a perception in the minds of some that unless it was registered with ASIC or Business Names Register or had an ABN it did not exist. Peter Wells said that CA needed to work out what it wanted to do and become and that this would determine the structure including incorporation.

It was agreed that CA would make a presentation to the National Co-operative Conference on 24 – 25 October 2012 and to the Co-operatives WA Conference on 8 – 9 November 2012.

Peter Wells reminded the meeting of the decision made at the 23 September 2011 meeting: That Co-operatives Australia agree to investigate over the coming 12 months how the co-operative sector can be better positioned in the future to promote and advance co-operative enterprises based on the experience and outcomes of IYC 2012 and that the proposed November 2011 summit of co-operative and mutual business leaders should be deferred until the second half of 2012 to allow proper investigation of all options.

That a CA presentation be made to both conferences about what CA and State Federations were

doing.

M: Peter Wells S: Marie Winter CARRIED

ACTION: ALL

It was noted that Chris Enright would make the CA presentation at the Co-operatives WA conference and it was agreed that the presentation at the National Co-operative Conference should be by CFNSW.

## 2.2 CNL

It was noted that the Co-operatives National Law had passed through the NSW Parliament.

David Griffiths said that he had been advised during the meeting by Consumer Affairs Victoria that the National Working Party are still discussing the proposed national regs with their next teleconference Friday 18 May 2012 and that it was expected that key stakeholders (primarily the federations) would be written to in a week or so with details of what is proposed and requesting feedback.

The meeting welcomed this information.

It was noted that CNL was an opportunity to promote CA and the State federations.

That a statement on CNL be issued.

M: Jim Howard S: Jim Sneesby CARRIED

## 2.3 Top 100

There was discussion on the Top 100 for 2012 and the Australia Institute Mapping Study.

It was agreed to aim for publication of this year's Top 100 in June 2012.

In principle agreement was given to assisting the Australia Institute proposed sector mapping survey subject to being satisfied as to the survey content, rationale, cost benefit and an information sharing agreement if State Federations become involved.

ACTION: All

## 2. Enterprise Connect

It was noted that there had been no response from Enterprise Connect to CA correspondence and that this should be followed-up. The Chairman said he would advise on the outcome.

ACTION: Chairman

Peter Wells reported that he was meeting with Enterprise Connect in WA and that the view had been expressed that co-operatives were not real businesses. He said he would advise on the outcome.

ACTION Peter Wells.

#### 4. Further 2012 Meetings

It was agreed that a further meeting would be organised when required.

ACTION: Secretary and Chairman

Draft Minute prepared by Secretary – 16 May 2012  
Authorised by Chairman - 17 May 2012